

letter, Wesson indicated that Wheeler had labeled the Blue River, Ariz., and the Escuinapa, Mexico, specimens as *rhea* and those from Stratton, Sabino Canyon, July 23, and Sabino Basin, July 8-12, as a new variety. There are no means now of determining on what characters Wheeler based his concept of a new variety. I have examined the specimens labeled by Wheeler as *rhea* and those he marked as his new variety, as well as individuals from all the other localities listed above. Among these there is a noticeable tendency for the sculpture on the head of the soldier to vary and for the epinotal spines to differ in shape. The rugulae on the anterior half of the head are consistently longitudinal whereas those on the posterior half of the head may converge at each posterior corner and there form somewhat of a concentric pattern, or they may all converge mesially toward the deep emargination on the back of the head or even may form a concentric pattern around the central part of the head. The epinotal spines likewise vary greatly as to the direction in which they are pointed. In some individuals the spines are almost horizontal; in others they are more angularly directed. In view of the high degree of variability in the sculpturing of the head and the position of the spines it does not seem advisable to recognize any subspecific forms of *rhea*.

SOME NOTES UPON THE TYPES OF NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICAN SYRPHID FLIES IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY.

By FRANK M. HULL,
University of Mississippi.

Several years ago I made a study of rare genera and the types of species of the family Syrphidae as represented in the collections of the British Museum of Natural History. These collections are peculiarly interesting, containing as they do not only representatives from many parts of the world, but also types of such persons as Walker, Bigot and other dipterists. I am greatly indebted to Dr. John Smart and to the late Dr. F. W. Edwards, who placed the facilities of the museum at my disposal for study. This paper records some observations made at this time having to do principally with synonymy and are listed below.

Lepidomyia cincta Bigot belongs to the genus *Quihuana* Knab.
Eristalis fo Bigot belongs to *Lathyrophthalmus*.
Helophilus scita Walker (from the Amazon) is a *Habromyia*.
Neascia (Ascia) striata Walker belongs in *Calostigma* Shannon.

- Baccha anthermus* Walker should be *Mixogaster anthermus* Walker.
- Syrphus laenas* Walker, *vatia* Walker, *barbula* Walker, *portia* Walker all belong in the genus *Mesogramma*.
- Eristalis soulouquensis* Bigot described from Hayti is conspecific with *vinetorum* Fabricius.
- Eristalis impositus* Walker described from Hayti appears to be conspecific with *Helophilus similis* Macquart.
- Quihuana* (*Merodon*) *angustiventris* Macquart appears to be identical with *Quihuana* (*Helophilus*) *aurata* Walker. The former is the earlier name, having been described in 1855.
- Cheilasia* (*Melanogaster*) *rufipes* Bigot. The type, a male, is headless. It appears to belong to the genus *Melanostoma*. Its fore tibiae are yellow, and slightly darker apically.
- Meromacrus basigera* Walker (described as *Eristalis basigera* Walker 1860) appears identical with *Meromacrus milesoides* Bigot (1880). The former name therefore has priority.
- Endoiasimyia indica* Bigot. I can see no important difference between this genus and *Hiatomyia* Shannon erected in 1922. The face of *Endoiasimyia* is strongly tuberculate but on the whole the fly is not greatly different from the American species.
- Baccha luctuosa* Bigot. This species from the pattern of its abdomen is strongly suggestive of *Allograpta* and should probably be placed there.
- Paragus pachypus* Bigot described from Australia belongs in the genus *Microdon*.

The following species related to *Helophilus* were examined for the presence or absence of the globiferous hairs at the base of the hind tarsi: *tarsatus* Bigot (*Prionotomyia tarsatus* Bigot), *indiana* Bigot (*Eumerosyrphus indiana* Bigot), *gigas* Curran, *albiceps* v. d. Wulp, *ruficauda* Bigot, *mesoleuca* Walker, *quadrivittata* Wied., *caudata* de Meijere. All of these species possess such globiferous hairs and hence belong in *Mesembrius* or are closely allied to this genus. *Helophilus inepta* Walker appears to completely lack such hairs. *H. africana* Verrall, although stated by Bezzi to possess them, appeared also to lack them.
